



## Political Affairs Committee

### FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

#### *Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly*

#### **AS/PoI/CB (2009) 04**

27 May 2009

**The Political Affairs Committee**, meeting in Paris on 26 May 2009, with Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

*as regards:*

- **Meeting in Kazakhstan:** was informed by the Chair of the letter he had received from the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Kazakhstan on 7 May 2009, postponing the meeting in Astana planned on 26-27 May 2009, expressed disappointment that such a decision was taken at short notice, and decided to postpone *sine die* consideration of the possibility of holding a meeting in that country;
- **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*): considered and approved a draft report, adopted unanimously a draft resolution and a draft recommendation and decided to recommend to the Bureau that a representative of the Belarusian parliament and a representative of the Belarusian opposition be invited to address the Assembly in the context of the debate;
- **Contribution on the draft Code of good practice for civil participation in the decision-making Process:** heard a statement by its Chair, held an exchange of views and approved a contribution on the draft Code for transmission to the Bureau and subsequent inclusion in the Progress Report in June;
- **External Relations:** heard a statement by its Chair on the joint meeting of the Sub-Committee on External Relations and partner Committees from the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the Assembly of the Western European Union (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 14-15 May 2009), took note that the Committees participating in the meeting agreed with the proposal made by the Chair of the Sub-Committee on External Relations that the 2010 joint PACE-CIS IPA conference should focus on conflict prevention, and that the Chairpersons of the relevant committees would jointly forward this proposal to the Presidents of their respective Assemblies;
- **119<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee of Ministers (Madrid – 11-12 May 2009):** took note of the conclusions by the Spanish Chairmanship and of the priorities of the Slovenian Chairmanship, heard a statement by its Chair, held an exchange of views on the Declaration adopted by the Committee of Ministers at its 119<sup>th</sup> Session on 12 May 2009 in Madrid, and agreed to propose to the Bureau to include a general policy debate on the future of the Organisation in the light of its 60 years of experience on the agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of the Assembly;

- **Composition of sub-committees:** appointed:

Sub-committee on the Middle East:

Mr Maximilian Reimann (Switzerland) as a new member, replacing Ms Doris Fiala who had left the Committee;

- **Future work**

a) *Motions to be referred to the Committee* (subject to ratification by the Standing Committee on 29 May 2009):

took note that the appointment of Rapporteurs would be made during the June part-session of the Assembly, taking into account, as far as possible, the d'Hondt system calculation of repartition of rapporteurships between the political groups as well as gender equality, and invited members interested in becoming Rapporteurs to inform the Secretariat;

b) *Authorisations by the Committee:*

endorsed Mr Lindblad's request to participate, with no cost for the Assembly, in the conference organised by the Association "Victims of communism Memorial Foundation", which will take place on 16 June 2009 in Washington D.C. (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau).

- **Next meetings**

- . 3<sup>rd</sup> part-session (22-26 June 2009), Strasbourg
- . 10-11 September 2009, Paris
- . 24-25 September 2009, Strasbourg – Forum on early warning in conflict prevention
- . 4<sup>th</sup> part-session (28 September - 2 October 2009), Strasbourg
- . 17 November 2009, Paris
- . 15 December 2009, Paris

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